

Claims

1. A system for administering promotions in which a player is awarded
5 any one or more of a priori promotion credit and a posteriori promotion
credit to be consumed in wagering on house edge services and peer-
to-peer services
characterised in that
substantially all of the a priori promotion credit and any substantially
10 any portion of the a posteriori promotion credit that is redeemable for
monetary value may be utilised by the player to make wagers on the
house edge services; and
substantially any portion of the a priori promotion credit that is not
redeemable for monetary value is not utilisable by the player to make
15 wagers on peer-to-peer services.
2. A system as claimed in claim1 in which the a priori promotion credit is
entirely unredeemable, either wholly or in part, for monetary value
- 20 3. A system as claimed in claim1 in which the a priori promotion credit
becomes progressively redeemable for monetary value as a function of
wagers made by the player on house edge services.
- 25 4. A method for administering promotions in which a player is awarded
any one or more of a priori and a posteriori promotion credit to be
consumed in wagering on house edge services and peer-to-peer
services
characterised in that
the method includes the steps of:
30 enabling the player to utilise substantially all of the a priori promotion
credit and substantially any portion of the a posteriori promotion credit
that is redeemable for monetary value to make wagers on the house
edge services; and

preventing the player from utilising substantially any portion of the a priori promotion credit that is not redeemable for monetary value to make wagers on peer-to-peer services.

- 5 5. A method as claimed claim 4 in which the a priori promotion credit is prevented from becoming redeemable, either wholly or in part, for monetary value.
- 10 6. A method as claimed in claim 4 in which the a priori promotion credit is made progressively redeemable for monetary value as a function of wagers made by the player on house edge services.
- 15 7. A system for administering promotions associated with a wagering application in which a player is awarded a priori promotion credit from time to time to make wagers on a game of chance, characterised in that the a priori promotion credit awarded to the player is not redeemable for monetary value, either wholly or in part.
- 20 8. A method for administering promotions associated with a wagering application in which a player is awarded a priori promotion credit from time to time to make wagers on a game of chance, characterised in that the method includes the step of preventing redemption of the a priori promotion credit for monetary value, either wholly or in part.
- 25 9. A system for administering promotions associated with a wagering application in which a player purchases credit to make wagers on a game of chance, the player being awarded a priori promotion credit from time to time, comprising: a credit administration facility operable to maintain a credit account for the player, characterised in that
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the credit administration facility is operable to automatically determine the balance of the credit account of the player as a function of any credit purchases made by the player, wagers made by the player and their corresponding payouts, and any a priori promotion credit awarded to the player, the credit administration facility being instructable to display the balance of the credit account to the player on a display means.

10. A system as claimed in claim 9 in which the credit administration facility is operable to also maintain at least one sub-account pertaining to the player's credit account, the at least one sub-account being a non-cashable sub-account corresponding to a portion of the player's credit account that is not redeemable for monetary value.

11. A system as claimed in claim 10 in which the credit administration facility is instructable to display a balance of the at least one sub-account to the player on the display means.

12. A system as claimed in claim 10 in which the credit administration facility detects the award of a priori promotion credit to the player, the a priori promotion credit having a corresponding quantum and a corresponding play-through multiplier.

13. A system as claimed in claim 12 in which the credit administration facility increments a balance of the player's non-cashable sub-account by the quantum of the a priori promotion credit.

14. A system as claimed in claim 13 in which the credit administration also maintains at least one play-through sub-account for the player, the at least one play through sub-account being either one of a play through required sub-account, and a play through achieved sub-account.

15. A system as claimed in claim 14 in which the credit administration facility is instructable to display a balance of the at least one play through sub-account to the player on the display means.
- 5 16. A system as claimed in claim 14 in which the credit administration facility maintains both the play through required and the play through achieved sub-accounts.
- 10 17. A system as claimed in claim 16 in which the credit administration facility increments the balance of the play-through required sub-account by an amount that is a function of the quantum of the a priori promotion credit and the play through multiplier.
- 15 18. A system as claimed in claim 17 in which the function is the quantum of the a priori promotion credit multiplied by the play through multiplier.
- 20 19. A system as claimed in claim 18 in which the credit administration facility increments the balance of the play through achieved sub-account by an amount equal to a size of the wager made by the player on the game of chance.
- 25 20. A system as claimed in claim 19 in which the credit administration facility debits the balance of the player's credit account and the balance of the non-cashable sub-account with the size of the wager and credits these balances with a payout arising from the wager, if successful.
- 30 21. A system as claimed in claim 20 in which the credit account facility clears the balances of the play through required the play through achieved sub-accounts when the size of the wager exceeds the balance of the non-cashable sub-account.
22. A system as claimed in claim 21 in which the credit administration facility enables the player to request a cash-out at any time.

23. A system as claimed in claim 22 in which the credit administration facility automatically determines, in response to the player's cash-out request, a balance of the player credit account that is redeemable for monetary value and displays the redeemable balance to the player on the display means.
24. A system as claimed in claim 23 in which the redeemable balance is the difference between the balance of the player's credit account and the non-cashable sub-account if the balance of the play-through achieved sub-account is less than the balance of the play through required sub-account.
25. A system as claimed in claim 23 in which the redeemable balance is the difference between the balance of the player's credit account and the lesser of the balance of the non-cashable sub-account and a cumulative total of a priori promotion credit awarded to the player if the balance of the play through achieved sub-account is not less than the balance of the play through required sub-account.
26. A method for administering promotions associated with a wagering application in which a player purchases credit to make wagers on a game of chance, the player being awarded a priori promotion credit from time to time, including the step of:
- maintaining a credit account for the player;
- characterised in that
- the method includes the further steps of:
- automatically determining the balance of the credit account of the player as a function of any credit purchases made by the player, wagers made by the player and their corresponding payouts, and any a priori promotion credit awarded to the player; and
- displaying, upon instruction the balance of the credit account to the player.

27. A method as claimed in claim 26 which includes the further step of maintaining at least one sub-account pertaining to the player's credit account, the at least one sub-account being a non-cashable sub-account corresponding to a portion of the player's credit account that is not redeemable for monetary value.
28. A method as claimed in claim 27 that includes a step of displaying, upon instruction, a balance of the at least one sub-account to the player.
29. A method as claimed in claim 27 that includes a step of detecting the award of a priori promotion credit to the player, the a priori promotion credit having a corresponding quantum and a corresponding play through multiplier.
30. A method as claimed in claim 29 in which a balance of the player's non-cashable sub-account is incremented by the quantum of the a priori promotion credit.
31. A method as claimed in claim 30 in which at least one play through sub-account for the player is also maintained, the at least one play through sub-account being either one of a play through required sub-account, and a play through achieved sub-account.
32. A method as claimed in claim 31 in which a balance of the at least one play-through sub-account to the player is displayed upon instruction.
33. A method as claimed in claim 31 in which both the play-through required and the play-through achieved sub-accounts are maintained.
34. A method as claimed in claim 33 in which the balance of the play through required sub-account is incremented by an amount that is a

function of the quantum of the of the a priori promotion credit and the play through multiplier.

5 35. A method as claimed in claim 34 in which the function is the quantum of the a priori promotion credit multiplied by the play through multiplier.

36. A method as claimed in claim 35 in which the balance of the play through achieved sub-account is incremented by an amount equal to a size of the wager made by the player on the game of chance.

10 37. A method as claimed in claim 36 in which the balance of the player's credit account and the balance of the non-cashable sub-account is debited with the size of the wager and in which these balances are credited with a payout arising from the wager, if successful.

15 38. A method as claimed in claim 37 in which the balances of the play through required and the play through achieved sub-accounts are cleared when the size of the wager exceeds the balance of the non-cashable sub-account.

20 39. A method as claimed in claim 38 which includes the step of enabling the player to request a cash-out at any time.

25 40. A method as claimed in claim 39 which includes a step of automatically determining, in response to the player's cash-out request, a balance of the player credit account that is redeemable for monetary value and displaying the redeemable balance to the player.

30 41. A method as claimed in claim 40 in which the redeemable balance is determined to be the difference between the balance of the player's credit account and the non-cashable sub-account if the balance of the play-through achieved sub-account is less than the balance of the play through required sub-account.

42. A method as claimed in claim 40 in which the redeemable balance is determined to be the difference between the balance of the player's credit account and the lesser of the balance of the non-cashable sub-account and a cumulative total of a priori promotion credit awarded to the player if the balance of the play-through achieved sub-account is not less than the balance of the play through required sub-account

43. A system for administering promotions associated with a wagering application in which a player is awarded a priori promotion credit from time to time to make wagers on a game of chance characterised in that the a priori promotion credit awarded to the player becomes progressively redeemable for monetary value as a function of a cumulative total wagered by the player on the game of chance.

44. A method for administering promotions associated with a wagering application in which a player is awarded a priori promotion credit from time to time to make wagers on a game of chance characterised in that the method includes a step of causing the a priori promotion credit awarded to the player to become redeemable, progressively, for monetary value as a function of a cumulative amount wagered by the player on the game of chance.